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Kelly Bobrow / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Thursday the Residence Hall Association discussed a new charity project set for March called the Hidden Riddle Race.

USC to enforce ban

RHA brings 'tobacco police' to control smoking

Elizabeth Segrist
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Residence Hall Association brought new ideas and policies to the table when they met Thursday. These upcoming changes at USC range from anti-smoking enforcements to a taste of wintertime for Columbia.

RHA President Terrill Wilkins, a fourth-year history student, said the campuswide policy of no smoking within 25 feet of any building is going to be enforced. This will be decided at a meeting next Friday with Maj. Eric Grabski of the university police department.

"There will be 'tobacco

police' similar to the bike cops in the Horseshoe, who will basically go around campus where smokers have been congregating," Wilkins said. "They will initially issue verbal warnings and subsequently issue some kind of ticket."

Wilkins said he is unsure right now if the ticket will penalize smokers financially.

"These people were hired to make smokers on campus more aware of the policy," Wilkins said. "The idea is for this policy to actually be enforced around campus."

RHA and the Senate meet next week over the loss of landlines in the dorms as of next year due to student's

cell phone usage.

"More than likely next year the landlines in residence halls will no longer be there unless a student wishes for one, but there will be a fee," Wilkins said.

Steve Smith, a third-year math student, said RHA will attend the South Carolina Organization of Residence Education conference at the College of Charleston Feb. 2-3.

SCORE is a state conference held once a year. It is also held regionally twice a year and there is a national conference annually.

"Each school sends delegates and these people present policies and debate

on them," Smith said. "Out of 90 delegates, around 40 of them are from USC for the statewide conference."

Katie Hageman, a fourth-year accounting student, said the Hidden Riddle Race will be March 24 and the money will go to a charity.

"This is a race that costs \$5.00 for entry and teams are made up of two to four people who follow clues around campus and everything has a point value," Hageman said. "There will be prizes at the end for the winning teams."

Wilkins hopes to involve some of the Greek organizations and other

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Housing to change dorm security

Winthrop crime spree leads schools to seek new student safety measures

Chelsea Hadaway
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Officials at Winthrop University in Rock Hill have recently tightened security as a result of a string of burglary and assault reports on campus.

Wayne Johnson, 24, was arrested earlier this month for breaking into a student's dorm room at 4 a.m., placing his hand over her mouth and saying he had a knife, according to the Associated Press. He has been charged with burglary and attempted criminal sexual conduct.

Johnson has also been connected to 11 other crimes around Winthrop, such as breaking into another student's residence and a sorority house.

Here at USC, housing officials have been working to amp up security and safety in residence halls.

"We are aggressively expanding our card access

systems and camera systems in an effort to promote safety in the residence halls," said Andrew Fink, director of residence life at USC.

Not all the dorms on campus have the card-access systems, but housing is working to get them installed in Sims and McClintock, hopefully by the end of this semester, Fink said.

In the next few years, housing plans to have the systems in all the residence halls, such as Capstone, Columbia Hall and Patterson, which don't have them right now.

More cameras are being installed at entrances to residence halls as well.

Although University Housing and police are working to improve safety, students also have an obligation to improve their own safety.

"Safety is a mutual responsibility. Students have to

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Kelly Bobrow / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Housing and USC police are hoping to increase dorm safety by installing card access to residence halls.

FROM THE CRADLE TO THE CLASSROOM

PART 1 OF 3

College can be an exciting, memorable and stressful time, but for some students here at USC, raising children is a part of their college experience.

Student parents have no visible characteristics that set them apart from everyone else.

You can't spot them walking down the road. But they're in classes, clubs and workplaces across campus.

What is life like for people that must take care of not only themselves, but also small children?

That question is the subject of a three-part series of stories on students who are raising children or are planning to.

Meet Christina Hutchinson, 19 and a first-year accounting student. This is her first semester at USC. She found out she was pregnant in September.

She sat down with The Daily Gamecock to talk about how she plans to manage going to school and raising a child.

The Daily Gamecock: Describe your life up to the point you found out you were pregnant.

Christina Hutchinson: "I've been in a lot of different activities, and it's like now things are kind of drawn into perspective and I have to cut back on certain things. It's like I have to think about not just myself but a child that has to survive also, so it's not just going to school, but having to think about later on once the baby's actually here.

"Before, I didn't have a job, and I wasn't thinking about getting a job, and was just trying to focus on school. And after I found out I was pregnant, I was like 'okay, well I have to work, and I have to do certain things in order to provide for a child.'"

TDG: What was going through your mind when you first found out?

Hutchinson: "I think the first thing that crossed my mind was 'how am I going to tell my mama.'"

"Then I thought about school, because I didn't go to school for the first semester. I was planning on coming to USC for this semester, and I was like 'OK, how is that going to work?' because I'm going to be further along when I get there. I thought about where I was going to be staying on campus, how far from classes. I didn't want to be seven months pregnant, walking to classes. And I was thinking about how things were going to be different and not just about me anymore."

TDG: How will you deal with going to school later in your pregnancy, when things become harder?

Hutchinson: "I'm the type of person that always thinks about 'what if?' or what might happen. I started to realize that it's getting a little harder for me to walk long distances and be OK because I get out of breath fast.

As far as classes go, I think I'll be fine. I think it's better now that it's later in the pregnancy that I'm actually starting school, because for the first three months, I was sick as I don't know what, and I stayed in bed all day, every day.

"I worry about different schedules for classes.

I'm not due until June, but with babies, you never know, so May is a possibility, and just making sure I make it through this whole semester before the baby actually comes."

TDG: What is your relationship with the child's father?

Hutchinson: "Well, we date, but he's an athlete. He was at (Midlands) Tech the first semester, and he wanted to transfer to USC, but in order to do that he had to go to Kansas. So right now he's in Kansas and isn't supposed to come back until May 18, which is like a month before the baby's supposed to come, and I'm just worried if he's going to be here, because I

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Day in the life of...

Transfer student tells pains, joys, benefits of switching schools

Transferring to a university is never easy.

Neither is moving 642 miles away from everything you have ever known.

For Jamie Price, a second-year broadcast journalism student, moving from the North to the South was definitely not a day at the park.

"When you leave your whole life behind you to go someplace else, to better your

education, it's a lot harder than you first imagine," Price said. "At first, you're so excited and then you almost end up wondering if you made the right decision."

For Price, realizing if she

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Special to THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Jamie Price is a transfer from Geneva College.



Sen. Glenn McConnell and other party leaders discuss whether to call a second vote.

State bills sent back

Republican votes not enough for majority

Nick Needham
METRO EDITOR

After a week of trying to gain a majority of votes, state senators sent Gov. Sanford's constitutional officer bills back to committee, where they will probably die.

On Tuesday, senators had to adjourn after what looked to be a filibuster attempt by democrats.

Sen. Tommy Moore, D-Aiken, said he didn't want to prolong the debate.

"This isn't an effort to stall," Moore said. "We don't want to prevent any votes."

Deliberations on Wednesday led senators to question whether taking away the right of voters to choose state officers and letting the governor appoint them would be better for the people.

Some senators used the current situation in Iraq, saying South Carolinians are dying for the right to elect their leaders.

Of the six offices being debated, only the comptroller general got a two-thirds majority vote, with a final vote coming next week.

Sanford expected the comptroller general bill would pass, since newly elected Comptroller General Richard Eckstrom campaigned for his office to be appointed during last fall's elections.

In a prepared statement, Gov. Sanford said a minority of senators was trying to preserve an antiquated

system of power.

"Do we give power to the people of South Carolina to decide on the structure of their government, and to that end I'd give real credit to each and every senator who voted today to allow South Carolina voters to have a greater voice on that front," Sanford said Wednesday.

Sen. Glenn McConnell, chairman of the senate judiciary committee and president pro tempore of the senate, supported all six of the bills, but once it was apparent a majority of votes couldn't be mustered up, McConnell recommended to refer the bills back to committee.

McConnell said he doesn't plan to put the bills back onto the committee's calendar, meaning Sanford will probably have to wait until next year to try again.

The bills concerning the secretary of state, agricultural commissioner, adjutant general, education superintendent and one dealing with whether the governor and lieutenant governor can run on the same ticket all got a majority of Republican votes.

But Republican leaders weren't able to sway enough votes from Democrats to get the needed two-thirds majority to pass.

Sen. Nikki Setzler, D-Lexington, said these are the types of positions, specifically that of the education superintendent, that deserve a non-partisan election.

"This is more important than party politics," Setzler said. "The children of South Carolina are not partisan."

Sanford had high hopes for the bills, traveling across the state earlier this week building support for his plan, urging voters to let their senators know where they stand.

"The most disappointing thing about today's votes is the lack of faith this minority of Senators has shown in the people of South Carolina to decide these questions for themselves," Sanford said.

The governor said he hasn't given up, however.

"That's why during the four more years we've been blessed with we're going to take that time and continue making our case directly to the people of South Carolina as to why these and other changes need to happen," Sanford said.

Comments on this story? E-mail gamecockmetro@gwm.sc.edu

Columbia Museum of Art provides free, alternative fun

Wright, Bing exhibits offer daytime amusement for original, artistic activities

While most students don't run to a new museum exhibit as soon as it opens, there are a few exhibits in Columbia this weekend everyone should check out.

The Columbia Museum of Art exhibit on the famous architect Frank Lloyd Wright is entering one of its last weekends on display in Columbia.

The exhibit, entitled "Frank Lloyd Wright and The House Beautiful," shows pieces designed by Wright, as well as pictures of his designs.

Wright's modern designs are something that everyone should see at least once. This man was a true American artist.

Architecture is rarely seen as "art" because we take it for granted as part of everyday life, but seeing Wright's work should make you appreciate the art of architecture. The exhibit shows how Wright experimented with designs that reflect the creativity of America and using space in his designs.

I know the idea of visiting a museum exhibit and using up some of your precious weekend sounds like Snooze-Fest 2007, but Wright's pieces are unique and interesting and may give you some ideas for your dorm room.

The museum is free to students on Saturdays, and it's pretty close to campus, located at the corner of Main

and Hampton streets.

I say you gather a posse, trek over to the museum, and then go out to lunch. Since museums are not something people visit all the time, the conversations it should spark — if you let yourself get into the idea of talking about art — will reveal things about your friends' psyches that you probably didn't know before.

It's not like you'll need to get up early or it'll take up your precious party time.

This exhibit is only at the museum for two more weekends, this one and the next, before it continues on its tour.

Another artist to check out at the museum is Han Bing, who is only in town until Saturday evening. Bing is a famous modern Chinese artist.

I know that modern art scares some people, and Bing's Cabbage Walking may seem strange to some but hearing the story behind

it sheds a whole new light on ruffage.

Yes, Cabbage Walking, as if the cabbage were an animal. However, cabbage is the comfort food for the rural population of China and Bing wants people to question seemingly ordinary things. The Cabbage Walking is part of accomplishing that.

Bing will be Cabbage Walking down Main Street at 5 p.m. tomorrow, something I think most people will want to see, and will have a video exhibit and reception at the Columbia Museum of Art at 7 p.m.

All of the Han Bing events are free and sure to be interesting conversation starters, if nothing else.

The Columbia Museum of Art is a cool place in general, with an airy feel and, obviously, some very cool art, so even if you're booked solid the next two weekends, try to check it out sometime.



GINA VASELLI
Third-year print journalism student

Crime Report

THURSDAY, JAN. 18
Simple possession of marijuana, 8:48 p.m.
Pickney Dorm, 902 Sumter St.

Three suspects, each 19, were issued summons for the possession of marijuana, after being found climbing out of the window when an officer knocked on the door.
Responding officers: C.G. Owens, S. Wilcox

FRIDAY, JAN. 19
Disorderly conduct, 2:58 a.m.
Capstone Dorm, 902 Barnwell St.

Police reported David Murray, 18, was arrested after attempting to enter the dorm without proper identification and was found to be intoxicated and not able to care for himself on his own.
Responding officer: D. Davis

MONDAY, JAN. 22
Shoplifting (larceny of textbook), 1:27 p.m.
Barnes and Noble Bookstore, 1400 Greene St.

The complainant said he saw the alleged suspect leave with a stolen textbook.
Estimated value: \$68
Responding officer: J. DuPree

Larceny of cell phone, larceny of leather jacket, 4:57 p.m.
Colonial Center, 801 Lincoln St.

The victims, 27 and 26, alleged they had a black leather jacket, car keys, phone charger and a cell phone stolen.
Estimated value: \$290
Responding officer: M.A. Winnington

TUESDAY, JAN. 23
Larceny of leather jacket, 11:35 a.m.
Colonial Center, 801 Lincoln St.

The victim, 20, said left his jacket on a chair and it was not there when he returned.

Estimated value: \$250
Responding officer: J. DuPree

Breaking into automobile, larceny of cell phone and iPod, 12:24 p.m.
Children's Center at USC, 1530 Wheat St.

The victim, 31, said someone broke into her unsecured car and stole her cell phone and iPod.
Estimated value: \$600
Responding officer: M.A. Winnington

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 24
Larceny of DVD/CD player, 1:46 p.m.
School of Music, 1051 Assembly St.

The complainant said that someone removed a DVD/CD player from an office.

Estimated value: \$75
Responding officer: M. Davis

Larceny of refrigerator, burglary, 4:55 p.m.
Leconte College, 1523 Greene St.

The complainant said that someone removed a refrigerator from an unsecured area.

Estimated value: \$400
Responding officer: J. Widdfield

THURSDAY, JAN. 25
Minor in possession of beer, simple possession of marijuana, 12:15 a.m.
Capstone Dorm, 902 Barnwell St.

Three suspects, 19, 18, and 19 were issued courtesy summons after being found on the roof about to smoke marijuana. After being granted consent to search their rooms, the officers found both marijuana and beer.

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student organizations to form teams for the race to support this charity event.

Gwyn Pauley, a third-year math student, said students will enjoy a "Snow Day" on Greene Street Feb. 15.

"Blocks of ice and a snow machine will be brought in to create actual snow by putting the ice blocks through the machine," Pauley said. "There will also be a virtual ski machine, snow-cones and hot chocolate."

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think about safety; they can't let people in who shouldn't be there, they shouldn't prop up doors," Fink said.

Maj. Eric Grabski, deputy director of the USC Police Department, encouraged students to lock their doors at all times, even when going down the hall for a few minutes.

The student at Winthrop had left her door unlocked.

"Almost all the crimes are what we call crimes of opportunity," Grabski said.

Students leave doors unlocked, which creates the temptation for other people to go in and steal things or commit other crimes.

Grabski also recommended reporting any suspicious activity or people to USC police.

If someone comes to your door you don't know, report that, he said.

Assault is not common in dorm rooms, Grabski said. There were 12 counts of aggravated assault in residence halls in 2005.

"The student perception study indicates students see their residential environments as being pretty safe," Fink said.

Comments on this story? E-mail gamecocknews@gwm.sc.edu

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don't want to go through that by myself. It was kind of hard at first thinking about him not actually being here, because I go through so many changes. And I can feel the baby move, and he can't feel the baby move through a telephone. That bothers me, but for the most part everything's fine between us."

TDG: Have you talked about the role that each of you will play in the child's life?

Hutchinson: "We're both the type of people that don't want to think too far ahead, so we just take each day as it comes, so we've actually talked about it and said that we'll get married. We've been together for a while now, so it's kind of like that next step.

As far as taking care of the baby, that's our main focus, thinking things through and making sure we ... plan."

TDG: How did you tell your parents and how did they react?

Hutchinson: "My mom kind of knew. Just the way that I was acting. I normally eat a lot, but I was eating more than I usually eat.

And me being the youngest of three girls, she was kind of hurt at first. But she's my mom, so she's going to be there for me. She's OK with it now. My step-dad was happy about it from day one. He really wants me to have a little boy. My step-dad's really great, so he's always there for me, too."

TDG: How do you feel about being pregnant?

Hutchinson: "I'd say

I'm nervous and excited. I was excited from day one, because I love kids. It never really bothered me, because I know people think 'You're 19, you have your whole life.' But I'm 'Yeah, but this is another life now.' And it's not so bad, because I'm doing well for myself. And ... I've got this."

TDG: Do you have any advice for girls about getting pregnant?

Hutchinson: "Just think, and be smart, and realize it's not just about you anymore. It's about another person who depends on you. I know plenty of girls who were in high school and had kids and did not need to have kids, because they didn't take care of them.

I know I like to have fun, but when you become someone's mom, you can't do the same things you used to do. You're no longer that child that you used to be. Just know that you need to grow up and be responsible."

—Ryan James

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has made the right decision will not come until she graduates and finds a job.

"USC's School of Journalism (and Mass Communications) is known for its broadcasting department," Price said. "Everyone up North talks about it."

Price said she decided to transfer from Geneva College near her hometown in Beaver, Penn., to USC solely for what she has heard about the college.

"Many of my professors at my old college said they wanted a program for their broadcast students like the program USC has," Price said. "The classes at USC are not harder than the ones at Geneva were, but they are more directed towards my major, so what did I do? I left and came to USC."

On Aug. 19, Price packed her bags and made the journey to Columbia.

To her surprise, driving around town was a lot harder than expected.

"A lot of the streets do not have street signs," Price said. "I seriously called my apartment complex four times asking for directions."

When the first day of

classes came, Price said she felt like a freshman all over again. Though she said she fell in love with her journalism classes, she also said they were hidden.

"The Coliseum is a huge circle," said Price. "I still get lost in that dungeon, and I have been here a semester already!"

Though Price is now in her second semester at USC, she still thinks about her home and where she would be now if she had stayed at Geneva College.

"I do wonder because the South is so different than the North," Price said. "Even the people are so drastically different. Sure the way they talk is different and the fact they drink sweet tea with everything is different, but I wouldn't really change it for the world because I'm learning."

Price said she wishes USC

would have provided some specific activities for transfer students so she could have met some more people, especially since she lives off-campus.

Despite not knowing a lot of people, Price said she has met some nice people through her classes and her apartment complex.

She said the professors have been wonderful.

"You can tell the journalism professors take pride in their out-of-state students," Price said. "They are eager to learn about what I've already been taught just as much as I'm excited to learn what they are teaching me."

For Price, moving has proven to be just like the license plate saying, South Carolina is full of "smiling faces and beautiful places."

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IN OUR OPINION

Cabbies refusal leaves more drunks on curbs

If you plan on drinking while in Minneapolis, don't plan on catching a cab. CNN reported that three quarters of the Twin City's 900 cab drivers are Muslim, many of whom have refused service to 5,400 would-be customers in the past five years because they were intoxicated or were carrying alcoholic beverages.

These cab drivers don't want to provide rides for these customers because it is against their faith.

When a person provides a service for the public, many different religions, cultures and beliefs might crawl in the back seat. After all, most of the people climbing into cabs in the first place are drunk and trying to avoid driving.

If these cabbies don't want to transport these people, they should seek a new job. Leaving intoxicated people standing on a curb is bad for public safety.

In big cities like Minneapolis, taxis can be a person's only method of transportation. They shouldn't be denied a ride because they are carrying alcohol.

A year ago, officials at the city's airport — where the problem has been the worst — tried to compromise by putting lights on the cabs that didn't transport alcohol, but people saw this as condemning those who wanted to drink.

If this happened in Columbia, students could be stuck wandering around Five Points at all hours of the night.

This world is dangerous enough without more drunks stumbling in the streets. These cabbies can save lives by simply getting a new job or putting their beliefs aside

CORRECTIONS

If you see an error in today's paper, we want to know about it. E-mail us at gamecockopinions@gwm.sc.edu

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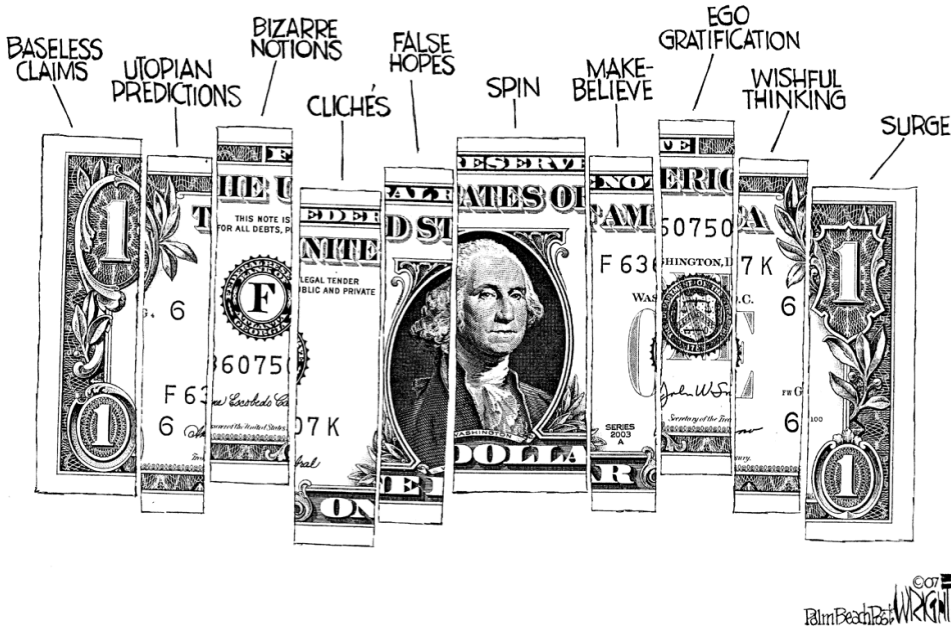
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IRAQ: YOUR TAX DOLLAR AT WORK



DA STOUDEMIRE CODE

Absences missing flair of good ol' days

Contests to see who can appear sickest replaced by threats of expulsion



CHASE SToudenMIRE
Third-year history student

Let's take a moment to notice some distinct changes that have taken place in my academic life over the past 12 years.

Twelve years ago, I walked in on the first day of my third-grade class and listened to the teacher tell me that the rules are simple.

Don't run, don't stick anything in your mouth that would seem out of place if you were to find it in a grocery store, and don't kick your classmates "Power Rangers"-style (ninja turtle-style is far less likely to cause serious injury).

We were also told that the class would involve field trips, recess in the afternoon and special holiday cookie and candy celebrations.

They came even on the holidays grown-ups tend to ignore, such as International Talk Like a Pirate Day. (Sept. 19, www.talklikeapirate.com)

Best of all, if you were sick or otherwise absent,

all you had to do was have your m o m m y write a note to the teacher.

"Little Ch a s e y was absent yesterday because he strategically woke feeling terrible in his little Chasey tummy.

He wasn't actually sick, but he faked it so darn well that I thought it would be a shame to let a talent like that go to waste.

So, I videotaped his little fake moans and submitted them to that Danny Tanner home video show. Maybe he can bring back one of the Olsen twins for show and tell."

Strategies like that worked back then — so well, in fact, that it became competitive.

The boys in my class would all decide on a day we wanted off, and the contest that morning would be to see who could construct the most authentic-looking pool of fake vomit.

First person to get sent home won; anyone left at

school by the end of the day was a complete and total failure.

Fast forward to the present when I show up to the first day of class in the fifteen-and-a-halfth grade.

The rules regarding absences in one class read, and I quote:

"Your evidence for missing more than 10% of your classes must be ironclad.

"If I am unable to verify the authenticity of any evidence you submit ... then I will give you a failing grade in this course and initiate an inquiry under the student academic integrity code recommending that you be expelled from the university."

On top of that, no recess, no cookie and candy celebrations, and the Olsen twins aren't hot anymore.

Like it or not, school just isn't what it used to be.

On the bright side, if you take a self-defense class, you're allowed to kick people any way you like — even "Power Rangers"-style.

Government owes squat to history's underdogs

Slavery was terrible, but nobody should get money based on past injustices

The major 24-hour news channels are running out of things to report. They have gone as far as taking topics that were relevant pre-1865 and attempting to put a modern spin on them. One major station ran the debate,

"Slavery: Time for an Apology."

Who is going to apologize? Furthermore, whom do they apologize to?

Since 1865, s o m a n y people have intermingled bloodlines that they will be apologizing to themselves for the deeds of their ancestors.

Slavery was a dark time in the country's history, but in the year 2007 the fact that anyone believes an apology is warranted is more ridiculous than Britney Spears having children.

Holocaust victims' ancestors are not asking for reparations or apologies from the government.

Victims and relatives of Japanese internment camp members demanded reparations, but not all of them believe that money is the way to fix the harm they suffered.

These two groups are more entitled to an apology than anyone asking for one about slavery, because unlike former slaves, there are many survivors of these atrocities still alive.

Unless you personally remember picking cotton in a field, or hollering "yes master" to preserve your life, please hush and divert your energy to something more constructive like campaigning for world peace.

The fact that this even made the news with the billions of other things going on in the world just shows how hung up America, as a country, is.

There are students who believe that a "crisis" is not being able to have a second \$800 coat they bought with mommy's credit card.

Wake up! These are not problems; they are not wrongs done to you by the world. They are things within your control; problems you created because of a culture that promotes vanity and materialism.

Real problems are things such as people dying from starvation, like in many African countries. An AIDS epidemic where most people will not live well into adulthood is a crisis.

Yet few people pay attention to these issues. Very few have done any research on them because it does not affect or really involve America.

Maybe these stations should try reporting on the lives of people in third world countries where people have real problems instead of having petty arguments over something that no one alive can remember or change.

The apology that people should be demanding is not for slavery, but for the choice of ignorance, because that is a greater disservice to humanity than slavery ever will be.



MONIQUE CUNIN
Third-year print journalism student



THOMAS MALUCK
Third-year English student

Junior stayed on wrong course, didn't capitalize on chance to make policy

Like other students on campus not getting blood transfusions to treat their apathy, I watched the State of the Union address a couple of nights ago with more than a passing interest. Tuesday night was somewhat of a milestone, or at least it should have been.

Bush Jr. hasn't exactly been gaining in popularity, despite the Iraq war being the noblest accomplishment of the 21st century, or something like that (my rhetoric's getting rusty these days).

In fact, while Junior's speech was supposed to be a transfusion of new ideas, it felt more like an enema of last term's backwash.

His statements about the war remain the same as those who entered with "boot up their ass" fervor: sounds like there's no better way to support our troops but to send 24,000 more over there.

Perhaps Baghdad could use more security, but after that, we can leave, right? Or is there a purpose for the 90,000 marines he hopes to recruit over five years?

There was an incredibly hopeful moment in the

a d d r e s s when I was ready to drop most other complaints and stand behind my president, and that was when he called for national healthcare, especially among the poorest in the country.

Yes, I thought! Finally, nobody will be shackled by fat hospital bills!

Oh wait, Junior meant something about private accounts and people saving up for medical emergencies. Because if anything's holding down the lowest tax bracket, it's the couple hundred dollars they need to sock away in a savings account.

As if they'd have something more worthwhile to spend money on! Doesn't this sound similar to the abandoned plan to repair social security? Invest, invest, invest!

If only Junior's biggest impact points were in reference to securing Baghdad and conservatively solving a social problem, but no, he had to remind us why terrorists hate us, as well as enemy militias and the countless other groups

who just plain don't like us.

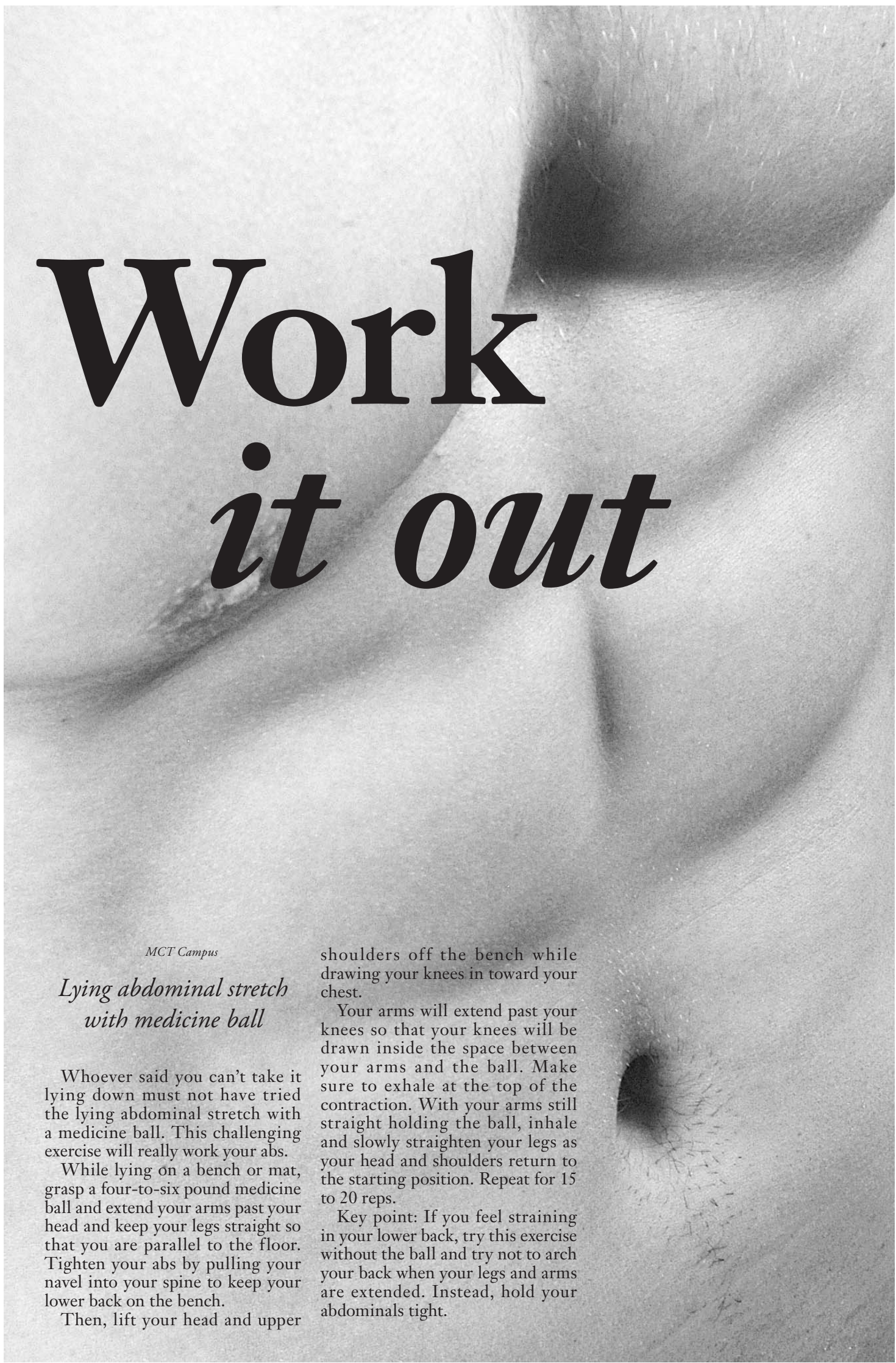
What's the rationale, again? The drum line from 2001 remains the same: they hate us for our freedom! They hate us 'cause we have liberty and big-screen TVs and porn!

Hate to break it to the illusioned, but it was never about big-screen TVs. Osama bin Laden said in several videos over several years since Sept. 11 that terrorists should attack America based on our support of Israel, as well as our military involvement and occupation in other parts of the Middle East. The initial fatwa can be found here: <http://www.library.cornell.edu/colldev/mideast/fatw2.htm>.

Thank goodness that for domestic protection, Bush calls for stronger policies regarding abducted children. An honorable objective, matched only by the beaten horse of a gay marriage amendment proposal.

Our nation's children remain defenseless against the sight of a happy gay couple!

In short, it seems that in place of a lame duck president, we're left with a decoy quacking the same pre-recorded noise that led us on the wrong hunt to begin with.



Work *it out*

MCT Campus

Lying abdominal stretch with medicine ball

Whoever said you can’t take it lying down must not have tried the lying abdominal stretch with a medicine ball. This challenging exercise will really work your abs.

While lying on a bench or mat, grasp a four-to-six pound medicine ball and extend your arms past your head and keep your legs straight so that you are parallel to the floor. Tighten your abs by pulling your navel into your spine to keep your lower back on the bench. Then, lift your head and upper

shoulders off the bench while drawing your knees in toward your chest.

Your arms will extend past your knees so that your knees will be drawn inside the space between your arms and the ball. Make sure to exhale at the top of the contraction. With your arms still straight holding the ball, inhale and slowly straighten your legs as your head and shoulders return to the starting position. Repeat for 15 to 20 reps.

Key point: If you feel straining in your lower back, try this exercise without the ball and try not to arch your back when your legs and arms are extended. Instead, hold your abdominals tight.

Special to THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Sperm research focuses on safer sex

Scientist seeks information, solution to effective male contraception

Sperm, that awkward word we were all exposed to in family life classes, is taking on greater interest. Unlike other worldly scholars, Dr. David E. Clapham of Yale University, in an interview with The New York Times, seems to deem these little guys groundbreaking science. Originally intrigued with recent and compelling research on neuron communication, Clapham began concentrating on an interesting concept: male contraception.



CHRISTINE STAHR
Second-year marine science student

Clapham’s research focused upon this ion channel, CatSper and its relationship to reproduction. The age-old question remained: how on earth did these microscopic and determined sperm break barriers and gain

allowing movement up to 20 times the normal force.

Interesting as this information is, how in the world is this practical in our lives?

Clapham believes the research can provide insight into a better understanding of male infertility.

The development of a medication that blocks this calcium channel provides a new concept as applied to male contraception.

However there are obstacles to this promising approach. Scientifically speaking there is a need for further

potential medications. Many companies are concerned with refining the female birth control pill rather than developing new methods for men. Financial support for this research has been limited and the scientific community has followed suit.

Reproductive research involving contraception methods has little prestige, Clapham explains to a New York Times reporter. However, Clapham will continue to focus on his fascination and research into the complexity of sperm. These determined little creatures have a single purpose in mind, swimming long distances with little regard for environmental challenges that stand in the way.

Clapham perseveres in his desire to eventually bring this to the forefront of scientific discovery and constitutes a driving force that might lead to new ways of pregnancy prevention and safe sex methods.

importantly, pharmaceutical companies lack interest in research of

In 1999 a unique neuron transmitter was found in the testes. According to Clapham’s New York Times interview, this discovery sparked interest that this ion channel had to be performing a very specific function.

access to the durable ovum membrane? The answer was observed in the CatSper mechanism. This built-in motor, as Clapham describes it in his New York Times interview, permits the sperm to travel long distances in order to reach the egg. As contact is achieved, the ion channel absorbs calcium and converts the tail into a whip-like mechanism

Fashion world leaves little room for curves

Magazines offer limited size ranges, discriminate against average bodies

I picked up a copy of JANE magazine at the bookstore on a whim while I was getting coffee the other day. I brought it back to my apartment and started thumbing through it, stopping every so often to glance at a fabric pattern or to guess at the length of a particular skirt.

Eventually I made my way to the back of the magazine — you know, the part where they list all of the stores that carry everything that is on all of the models in the magazine.

My eye had been lingering on a certain jacket from Forever 21, and I had every intention of buying it. I found the link from the shopping index and eagerly typed the URL into my laptop.

Anxiously, I trudged through the checkout process, only to find that they didn’t carry the jacket in my size.

Same with the floral silk shirt from the Gap, same with the pleated poly/cotton skirt from Neiman Marcus.

Frustrated — yes, of course I was. But, in fact, I was even more bewildered. I have never

had this problem in finding anything in a size 7 or 8 before so I was scratching my head over this enigma.

It’s not like I’m unhealthy or anything. I walk everywhere (not having a car will do that to you) and, since quitting my job at Marble Slab, I haven’t really had any particular urge to eat ice cream in a long while.

So (and I’m sure this question has been asked before and will inevitably be asked again), given that, why would someone try to peg me as a fatty?

Why would the fashion world, something I have given a few years of my designing life to, blatantly thrust me aside as unpretty?

I guess it’s true that I am not the most gorgeous person ever to grace, well, anything, but I still would like to be able to purchase something if I see it in a magazine.

Now, I know that there are people everywhere who weigh more than me and people that weigh less than I do — all the more reason for all stores to carry items of clothing that fit all sizes. Why should overweight girls (maybe you can include me in this category, maybe you can’t) have to go to a separate store to buy a knock-off when they want the new Dolce & Gabbana sundress as much as the size 2 chick?

I am not saying that now I’m going to lose my excess weight or do anything any differently; in fact, I think I’ll just continue to make my own clothes instead.



CAROLINE DESANTIS
Third-year print journalism student

Recipe of the Week



Special to THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Thursday while trying to figure today’s feature recipe, a staffer said, “Anything Italian or with chicken is good for the dorms, because pasta is easy and chicken is cheap.” So, here we are, an Italian dish with chicken! Try it out this weekend.

Chicken Tetrazini

3 tbsp. flour
1/2 stick butter
2 c. milk
1 green pepper; optional
1 can cream of mushroom soup
3/4 c. grated sharp cheese

1 sm. jar pimientos, chopped
1/2 tsp. garlic powder
1 tsp. salt
3 c. chopped chicken
1 box spaghetti

Cook spaghetti in broth for half of the time required (listed on package).

Melt butter and blend in flour until smooth. Stir in milk. Cook over medium heat, stirring until thick. Add green pepper and cook 5 more minutes over low heat.

Add cheese, soup and garlic powder. Blend well. Add chicken and spaghetti. Put in casserole and sprinkle with cheese.

Bake at 350 degrees Fahrenheit for approximately 30 minutes.

Serves 8. May be frozen.

— cooks.com

PIC OF THE DAY



Cocky gets the crowd cheering in their seats by jumping rope across the court during the women's basketball game against Florida Thursday night.

Mark Povelaitis / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Inside the Box ♦ By Marlowe Leverette / The Daily Gamecock

YOU KNOW, I AGREE WITH THE DEMOCRATS, LETS INCREASE THE MINIMUM WAGE TO OVER SEVEN DOLLARS!

AND I AGREE WITH BUSH, LETS KICK OUT ALL THE ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS!

...WANNA GO BUY PRODUCE BEFORE EVERY FARMER IN AMERICA GOES BANKRUPT?

HOW IS RAVY GOING TO SURVIVE WITHOUT HIS KUMQUAT BRIOCHE EVERY MORNING?!

Welcome to Falling Rock National Park ♦ By Josh Shalek

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Sudoku

By Michael Mephram

01/26/07

				1	3	4
	4			5		
6	1	7		8	2	
		8			9	
9			7	3		6
		6			5	
		9	5		4	1
			9			3
	5	2	8			

Level 1 2 3 4

How to Play
Complete the grid so each row, column AND 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9.

Solutions to Thursday's Sudoku

7	3	5	2	6	9	8	4	1
8	4	1	7	3	5	9	6	2
9	2	6	1	8	4	3	5	7
5	9	2	6	1	7	4	8	3
4	6	8	9	2	3	1	7	5
1	7	3	4	5	8	2	9	6
6	5	4	3	9	2	7	1	8
2	1	9	8	7	6	5	3	4
3	8	7	5	4	1	6	2	9

the scene at USC

The Never



TONIGHT

ON OR OFF? BAREFOOT IN BANGLEDASH, MARIAN CENTER

New Brookland Tavern 122 State St. 6 p.m. \$5 over 21, \$8 under 21

LINDSAY HOLLER, A DECENT ANIMAL, THE NEVER

The Art Garage 728 S. Edisto Ave.

NEIGHBOR'S ACRES, WESLEY COOK

Jammin' Java 1530 Main St. 9 p.m.

LILY TOMLIN

Koger Center for the Arts 1051 Greene St. 8 p.m.

SATURDAY

COLUMBIA CLASSIC BALLET

Koger Center for the Arts 1051 Greene St. 7:30 p.m.

"BEEN RICH ALL MY LIFE"

Nickelodeon Theatre 937 Main St.

HOROSCOPES

Aries Temptation is rampant as you receive compensation for past labors. Your friends suggest lots of amusing ways you could spend the money on them.
Taurus You're busy enough holding on to what you've already acquired. Be polite, but firm.
Gemini It's not a good time to go racing boldly forward. To win this battle, a more circuitous route is recommended.
Cancer There are more opportunities for socializing now. Don't talk about your recent successes however, or how much you've gained.
Leo New rules and regulations inhibit your expression. It won't be long until you find a way to be effective within the system.
Virgo You're starting to wish you could run away from your regular job, but you can't. Don't make yourself sick with worry.
Libra Stash away whatever you've collected and don't talk about it. This goes for money as well as information.
Scorpio Consult an expert. You're getting into an area that requires delicate maneuvers.
Sagittarius You've heard that the impossible just takes a little longer. For you, this challenge could take forever. Go ahead and hire an expert.
Capricorn You can get some rest, if you can stop worrying about money.
Aquarius You've been very busy for the last few weeks. Spend an evening at home. How long since you watered your plants?
Pisces What you're learning now is at odds with what you already know. This does cause confusion, but it's usually not fatal.

Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

1/26/07

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ACROSS

- 1 Ballplayer Wade
- 6 J-N connection
- 9 Splinter groups
- 14 "Christ Stopped at _"
- 15 Caesar's hail
- 16 Eurasian primrose
- 17 Post-season show
- 18 CD_
- 19 Dern or Ashley
- 20 Tulane's salute to the Parthenon?
- 22 Burning coal
- 23 Dash
- 24 _ de plume
- 26 Asserts before proof
- 29 Most on edge
- 34 Split
- 35 \$-due mail
- 36 Old stringed instrument
- 37 Slugger Roger
- 38 Docs
- 39 Morocco's capital
- 40 Actor Jannings
- 41 \$
- 42 Make up one's mind
- 43 Poet Siegfried
- 45 Joint seals
- 46 Skater Midori
- 47 Negligible amount
- 48 Katey of "Futurama"
- 52 Syracuse farmers?
- 57 Disturbing feeling
- 58 Silver or Ely
- 59 Henner on "Taxi"
- 60 Author Adler
- 61 Gore and Capp
- 62 Pizzey and Gray
- 63 Eagle claw
- 64 Jan. honoree
- 65 Student's paper

DOWN

- 1 Ocean ice
- 2 German chief
- 3 Writer Vidal
- 4 Duke's art class pranksters?
- 5 Depressions
- 6 Gold measures
- 7 Ukrainian city
- 8 Keepsakes
- 9 Invoking the force of religion
- 10 Brief test
- 11 Kind of soda or sandwich
- 12 Become fatigued
- 13 Practice a few rounds
- 21 Architect Christopher
- 25 Ref. volumes from the U.K.
- 26 Summits
- 27 Andes grazer
- 28 Nocturnal primate
- 30 Inactive U. of Maine critters?
- 31 Composer Blake

Solutions from Thursday

C	A	B	S		O	M	E	G	A		R	A	T	A	
O	L	L	A		M	A	S	S	O	N		E	R	I	C
M	A	U	L		E	S	S	A	Y		V	E	E	R	
O	N	E	O		U	N	C	E			G	E	N	I	E
			O	N	S			S	Y	R	I	A	N	S	
S	T	A	N	D		R	E	T	A	I	L				
L	A	G		O	F	E	X	A	M	P	L	E	I	S	
A	C	E	S		L	O	T	T	E		E	L	S	A	
W	O	R	T	H	A	P	O	U	N	D		L	I	L	
			M	O	R	E	L	S			E	R	A	S	E
S	A	R	A	C	E	N				S	E	E			
C	L	E	R	K			O	F	A	D	V	I	C	E	
H	I	N	T			D	O	M	E		E	N	O	L	
W	A	D	I			A	N	I	T	A		R	O	C	K
A	S	S	N			M	O	T	E	T		E	N	O	S

- 32 German city
- 33 French heads
- 35 45% of M
- 38 Initial design
- 39 Quitter
- 41 Caste mark
- 42 Mend by weaving
- 44 Wildcatter, e.g.
- 45 Danzig
- 48 Area meas.
- 49 Mystique
- 50 Highlander
- 51 Ray of "God's Little Acre"
- 53 Dice toss
- 54 Med. scans
- 55 Writer Ferber
- 56 Snoopy

South Carolina rolls Florida

Melanie Johnson's double-double paves way to dominating win at home against hapless Gators

Christopher Aleman
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

The Florida Gators women's basketball team traveled to Columbia Thursday in hopes of snapping its seven-game losing streak, but Florida dropped its eighth consecutive game as the Gamecocks (12-9, 2-4 SEC) walloped the Gators (6-15, 0-6 SEC) in a lopsided 79-51 USC victory.

Seven seconds into the game, the Gators took a 2-0 lead, and that was the only scoring advantage Florida would have for the rest of the match, as the Gamecocks dominated in almost every aspect of the game.

With 4:23 left in the first half, USC held a 30-point lead and never looked back. The Gamecocks, who are 11-1 this season when leading at halftime, entered the break with a 35-16 lead over Florida.

USC's productive bench, which had outscored opposing non-starters by a 672-268 margin prior to Thursday

night's contest, scored 45 points. Gamecock senior forward Melanie Johnson came off the bench and shot 50 percent from the field to lead all scorers with 22 points.

Johnson, who also pulled down a game-high 12 rebounds, said the win is a good barometer for measuring the team's ability as the Gamecocks prepare for nine consecutive SEC games.

"The SEC's a tough conference, and at this point, teams are trying to figure out how good they really are," said Johnson. "It's always good to get a win."

South Carolina, which shot 42.7 percent from the field and a lackluster 18.2 percent from beyond the arc, relied heavily on its top-20 defense. USC head coach Susan Walvius said the Gamecocks' rebounding and size advantage were the key components in securing the win.

Comments on this story? E-mail gcksprts@gwm.sc.edu



Mark Povelaitis / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

South Carolina's women's basketball team scored a solid conference win at home against the Florida Gators Thursday.

Men's team ready to battle Bulldogs

Gamecocks hope to continue winning ways with trip to Mississippi State Saturday

Langston Ross
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Forget back-to-back SEC wins. On Saturday, the USC men's basketball team will go for back-to-back wins for the first time in four weeks. The Gamecocks will travel to Starkville for an SEC match up against Mississippi State.

The Gamecocks enter the game at 11-7 (1-4 SEC), as do the Bulldogs (2-3 SEC). Carolina will take momentum and confidence to The Hump after its 66-60 win Wednesday night against Arkansas. Seniors Tre' Kelley and Brandon Wallace will need to use their leadership and experience as the Gamecocks have been mediocre on the road this season. The Gamecocks are .500 on the road, and have yet to pick up an SEC win away from home.

While the facts may sound harsh, this year's team has actually played well in the SEC, minus a handful of terrible halves against Florida and Kentucky. Kelley is fourth in the conference in scoring with only one healthy leg, while Wallace is becoming a glass cleaner with double-digit rebounds in his last two SEC contests.

The problem hasn't been with the two leaders, it has been with the lack of consistency in the other three starters.

The supporting cast may be maturing as junior Dwayne Day has shown signs of becoming more productive. Senior Bryce Sheldon just doesn't seem as comfortable as last year with the new role that coach Dave Odom has for him.

Redshirt freshman Dominique Archie is shooting 55 percent from the field, but has lacked consistency. Freshman Brandis Raley-Ross was on fire at the start of the year with back-to-back SEC freshman of the week honors, but now is going through the dog days of the SEC schedule. Evaldus Baniulis has been a surprise and crowd favorite, but the speed of the game has presented problems for him at times.

Unlike Carolina, the Bulldogs have four players that average double figures, with three of the four being sophomores. The Bulldogs are lead by sophomore Jamont Gordon who was an All-SEC freshman team last year. Gordon leads the team



Kelly Bobrow / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Tre' Kelley looks to drive against Arkansas Wednesday. USC is gunning for another SEC victory Saturday.

in scoring followed by Barry Stewart, Charles Rhodes and Richard Delk.

The Bulldogs are young and inexperienced with five freshman and six sophomores, and only two seniors. Last year ended a five-year postseason run for the Bulldogs. Consistency

has been the key for Coach Rick Stansbury and his team. The talent of the Bulldogs will test Carolina, but the Gamecocks have the leadership and experience to emerge victorious.

Comments on this story? E-mail gcksprts@gwm.sc.edu

Columbia's record gets marred against Augusta

Lynx strike back, burn Inferno with killer powerplays

Cory Burkarth
STAFF WRITER

THEY WERE DUE

Before Tuesday night's game, the Inferno were 5-0-1 against the Augusta Lynx. Even though the Lynx have been ahead of the Inferno all season in the southern division standings, Augusta was only able to pick up 3 out of a possible 12 points in the previous six meetings. The Lynx outplayed the Inferno for the first two periods in last Friday's game at the Carolina Coliseum, but a third period collapse allowed the Inferno to score two goals and win it in a shootout.

Tuesday, despite only having two penalties called against them by referee Rich Leonard, the Inferno never held the momentum and allowed the Lynx to outplay and outwork them all night long.

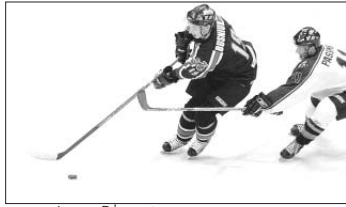
"I thought overall the effort wasn't there tonight," said head coach Troy Mann, who was also none too pleased with his penalty killing unit that gave up two second period goals that undoubtedly shut the door on the game. "To me, playing on the power play is a privilege, and obviously there's a few guys that are taking things for granted."

NOWHERE TO PLAY

Tuesday's game between the Dayton Bombers and the visiting Wheeling Nailers was postponed after the Nutter Center experienced problems with its chiller and the water that was put down to make the ice was not able to freeze. The ECHL has yet to announce a makeup date for the game, but it is expected that the rematch will take place in late March.

ONE LUCKY FAN

The Alaska Aces announced that for the third season in a row that their 100,000th fan of the season will be awarded with



Juan Blas / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

The Inferno couldn't hold off the Lynx indefinitely.

two round-trip tickets from Anchorage to Honolulu and an autographed team jersey. Their current overall attendance sits at 94,757 and the winning fan is expected to walk through the turnstiles sometime this weekend.

CALLING IT QUILTS

Inferno right wing Scott Sheppard was deleted from the roster Tuesday, with the official transaction saying that he retired. Sheppard appeared in 11 games for Columbia, scored six points (1g, 5a) and was a minus-3. Mann was not available on Thursday for comment.

THIS WEEKEND

The ECHL's bottom feeder team returns to the Coliseum for a pair of weekend games. On Friday and Saturday, the Inferno will host the Pensacola Ice Pilots (10-28-2) for the fourth and fifth of ten meetings between the two teams. Pensacola right wing Mike Wirrl returns after he was suspended for one game by the ECHL for slew-footing the Inferno's Derek Martin. The Ice Pilots are the second most penalized team in the league with 1135 PIM and the Inferno are the least penalized team with 724.

Saturday night, both Dale Earnhardt's No. 3 car from the 2000 season and Dale Earnhardt Jr.'s No. 8 car will be on display at the Coliseum as a part of the Inferno's NASCAR night promotion.

Comments on this story? E-mail gcksprts@gwm.sc.edu

Track and Field teams head south for weekend

Michael Aguilar
STAFF WRITER

Head coach Curtis Frye is not satisfied with the way his team has performed thus far this season.

Even after Carolina dominated some events at the Rod McCravy Invitational last week, Frye expects more. After last weekend, Frye has several athletes that he believes are potential national competitors who have not even achieved a provisional time yet.

"We're doing better than expected off of the first week (of competition)," Frye said. "We're not near

expectations in any area and have not exceeded any expectations in any area. We're behind, but we're just less behind."

The Gamecocks are going to travel down to Gainesville, Fla. this weekend to run in a meet at the University of Florida. The meet plays host to a lot of great teams, such as Florida State, Auburn, Miami and many other teams that have top tier athletes.

Even though USC is not where it hopes to be, and some of the teams that it will face this weekend are some of the better teams in the nation, Frye said that

he expects to see his team socializing with the other teams during the meet.

"Compared to other sports there is a very uncommon camaraderie," Frye said. "You can see people who are getting ready to go run each other at the quarter sitting with each other prior to race or even doing warm up drills together."

That in mind, Frye also notes that there is a high level of competition between certain teams and also certain athletes. Frye notes especially Gamecocks rivals Texas and Tennessee universities.

"There are some strong rivalries," Frye said. "Most

of those there is history of competition and recruiting. Our kids can get very competitive about 'they didn't do this or that,' or 'we did this better than them.' So those things make for heated competition."

On the track, Frye expects a big weekend out of junior Keith Hinnant.

All in all, Frye hopes to see another weekend of improvement before the Gamecocks travel to The Armory Invitational in New York City and face the biggest national competition they have seen all season.

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